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## GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

It had been planned to devote the March issue to announcements of committee personnel and plans. As it proved impracticable to bring these matters to a definite conclusion early enough, and as other available material was sufficient in amount to constitute a double number, the February and March issues were combined.

The present issue contains a complete list of committees, with such statements as are available in regard to their progress and plans.

In view of the anticipated demand for copies of the Report on Academic Freedom in Wartime, the size of the edition was increased and arrangements have been made for reprints of the report itself. This report has been discussed editorially in the *Outlook* for March 27, and in the *Nation* for March 21. Reference may also be made to Professor Lovejoy's reply to the latter criticism in the *Nation* for April 4.

Attention may be called to the recently organized War Department Committee on Education and Special Training, whose functions are defined in *Science* for February 22 and *School and Society* for March 23.

## COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

The following correspondence is of interest in connection with the recent report on Academic Freedom in Wartime:

GARRISON-ON-HUDSON, N. Y., March 26, 1918.

*To the Trustees of Columbia University in the City of New York:*

Sirs—I beg to submit to you the following requests:

(1) That the proceedings which resulted in the passage of the resolution removing me from the chair of psychology on October 1, 1917, be reopened, and that, at a hearing before an impartial body and on properly specified charges, I be given opportunity to defend myself against the accusation of "treason," "sedition" and "opposition to the enforcement of the laws of the United States."

(2) That my salary be paid for the present academic year.

(3) That in accordance with the terms of the statutes of the university I be retired from active service on July 1, with the pension due me.

Presentation of the first request has been postponed until the American Association of University Professors had made its report. The Association has now

investigated the charges and on a full review of the facts has stated its conclusions in the following words:

It is a grave abuse of the power of dismissal when it is used to deny to members of the university faculties the enjoyment of their fundamental constitutional rights as citizens; and an institution in which dismissal is possible upon such a ground as was officially put forward in this case is one in which adequate guarantees of academic freedom are manifestly lacking. It is in some respects a still graver abuse of power when administrative officers or governing boards attempt by their official declarations publicly to attach the stigma of treasonable or seditious conduct to an individual teacher because of acts of his which are in fact neither treasonable nor seditious.

When charges are brought against a member of a college or university faculty upon any ground, the proceedings should, as a matter of course, be strictly judicial in character, and should be in accord with the principle of faculty responsibility. In other words, the person accused should be entitled to have the charges against him stated in writing in specific terms, and to have a fair trial on those charges before either the judicial committee of the faculty, or a joint committee composed of an equal number of professors and trustees, which should render definite findings, stating, in case of a decision adverse to the accused, the precise acts on which the decision is based. The importance of maintaining these procedural safe-guards against hasty or unjust action is, if possible, even greater at a time of popular excitement and heightened passions than under normal conditions.

These finding of the American Association of University Professors are in consonance with the Anglo-Saxon conceptions of elementary justice. The charges on which I was dismissed, after twenty-six years of continuous service as a full professor of Columbia University, are exceedingly grave in character and are by law made crimes punishable by the most severe penalties. A proceeding by which a body of men undertake to adjudge a university professor, guilty of such heinous crimes, without trial and to publish its findings broadcast is revolting to the sense of fairness and of justice. It can not be allowed to stand.

My second request is based on the fact that my tenure of office was at least from year to year, *i. e.*, from July 1 to June 30.

As to my request for retirement on pension on July 1 next, I beg to remind you that I had completed the full period of twenty-five years of service as professor of Columbia University prior to October 1, 1917, and that on the completion of this period my right to the pension provided by the statutes of the university became an accrued and vested right of which I can not be deprived by any subsequent acts on my part or by any resolution of the trustees. In this connection I desire to call your attention to a letter written to me by the President of the university on May 9, 1913, stating that I became entitled to the pension under section 67 of the statutes on July 1, 1913.

Respectfully,

(signed) J. McKEEN CATTELL.

THE TRUSTEES OF COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY IN THE CITY OF NEW YORK  
No. 63 Wall Street

JOHN B. PINE, *Clerk*.

NEW YORK, April 3, 1918.

J. McKeen Cattell, *Esq.*,  
Garrison-on-Hudson,  
New York.

*Dear Sir*—I am instructed by the Trustees of Columbia University to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of March 26, and to inform you that they decline to comply with each and every of the requests therein contained.

Yours truly,  
(signed) JOHN B. PINE, *Clerk*.

### EMERGENCY COUNCIL ON EDUCATION

*Meeting in Washington, March 26 and 27*

Representatives were present from the Association of American Universities, the Association of State Universities, the Association of American Colleges, the American Association of Agricultural Colleges and Experiment Stations, the Catholic Educational Association, the National Education Association, the Society for the Promotion of Engineering Education, the Association of American Medical Colleges, etc.

*Joint Commission on a Department of Education.*—Announcement was made of the organization of a joint commission on the national emergency in education and a program for readjustment during and after the war. Dr. G. D. Strayer, Teachers College, Columbia University, chairman of the Joint Commission, was present at one of the sessions and discussed particularly the considerations affecting the proposed establishment of a department of education. It was informally agreed that the Emergency Council and the Joint Commission would co-operate in advocating this legislation, but it was also pointed out that the Emergency Council ought not to permit this particular project to prevent or interfere with activities in other directions, as there was considerable difference of opinion among its constituent bodies in regard to the expediency of the legislation.

*Plan of Organization.*—The plan adopted at the joint meeting was further discussed and on the basis of a report from the same committee, the Council adopted certain amendments and a set of by-laws. The list of associations was extended by the addition of the Association of Corporation Schools and the Association of American Law Schools, and it was voted to invite the co-operation of the

Society for the Promotion of Industrial Education and the Child Welfare Association.

The Executive Committee was authorized to enter into such advisory relations as it may deem expedient with educational agencies in the various governmental departments.

It was voted to appoint a committee of three on International Educational Relations with particular reference to England and France, the Spanish-American countries and Japan. The chair appointed Messrs. H. V. Ames (University of Pennsylvania), H. W. Tyler (Massachusetts Institute of Technology) and J. H. Wigmore (Northwestern University), all members of this Association.

#### SUGGESTIONS FROM THE COMMITTEE ON PATRIOTIC SERVICE

The Committee desires to call attention to the opportunities for summer work on the part of university professors who are then free to devote themselves to more active service than during the college year. There is an almost limitless field of activity open in connection with the educational work of the training camps (consult the local educational secretaries), the local activities of the Food Administration, and the work of state and local committees.

A special and significant opportunity for college men is offered this summer by the National Security League in its campaign for intellectual preparedness among teachers in American schools. As a means of mobilizing the country's intellectual resources, the League proposes to institute this summer, in fifty or more of the established summer schools, teachers' patriotic training courses, into which it hopes to gather several hundred thousand school teachers for study of the problems of the war and the period of reconstruction which will follow. University and college faculties should be the principal source of supply for the lecturers in such schools, and the League counts upon a wide response from professors who feel themselves qualified for such work. The League cannot pay salaries, but is ready to meet all expenses incidental to the work. Volunteers are requested to send their names, together with such personal data as they deem essential, to

PROFESSOR ROBERT McNUTT McELROY, *Educational Director*,  
The National Security League,  
19 West 44th Street, New York City,  
from whom fuller information may be obtained.

The training camp libraries report the need of certain kinds of books of the sort of which college and university professors often possess superfluous copies. These include textbooks of all sorts, technical books, modern language books, and English classics in new and attractive editions. Gifts may be sent through college or public libraries.

*Extract from a recent letter of Professor Paul Van Dyke of the American University Union in Europe to Chairman Haskins (dated Paris, March 13, 1918).*

. . . "I have a suggestion for a certain line in which I believe the Committee could be of very direct service to us and to the fighting men of France. In the summer General Pétain, with General Pershing, asked the Y. M. C. A. to undertake, in conjunction with an existing French organization known as the Foyer du Soldat, the establishment of thirteen hundred stations to give recreation and aid to the French troops on the line or in reserve sustaining the line. . . . The work is being done on very broad and strong lines. Three hundred and fifty of these stations have already been established, but the work is much impeded by the lack of the right sort of American men to put into these stations. For they wish to put in each of the largest stations a Frenchman and an American, who speaks some French, at least enough to understand what the soldiers want when they come into the huts and to be able to express plainly, even though inelegantly, his reply to their questions. I do not know how any man beyond military age, willing to rough it a bit and not afraid of the chance of an occasional bomb, could find a more real and interesting chance to do his bit. I feel sure that among college men, too old or otherwise incapacitated for active service, there must be many of the right stamp who would like the chance to get into this, if they knew of it. . . . It is agreed that the Secretaries of these French huts shall conduct no religious meetings, to avoid all suspicions of proselytizing among the French soldiers. . . . If the Committee feels inclined to give this appeal a wide circulation with their authority among graduates of our American colleges and can thus get the services of several hundred men fitted for this work (not fitted for active service in the army) the Committee will do something very practical to help towards winning the war. . . ."

## COUNCIL BUSINESS

The Council has voted favorably on the recommendation that the Association be represented in the Emergency Council of Education and that it approve the proposal of the Emergency Council to support legislation for a national department of education.

Presidents of colleges and universities represented in our membership have been placed on the complimentary list for the BULLETIN. Among many interesting letters of acknowledgment, the following may be quoted:

"I am much gratified by the action of the Executive Committee of your Association in placing my name on the complimentary mailing list. Bulletins that have hitherto been issued seem to me to have been most valuable contributions to educational progress and I hope to benefit from similar reports in the future."

## NOTES FROM LOCAL BRANCHES

### DARTMOUTH LOCAL BRANCH

"The following topics are suggested for discussion at the forthcoming meeting:

1. Is more constant discussion of the problems of education desirable? If so, how can this be brought about?

2. Is there need of greater co-ordination among the departments of the College? If so, how can this be brought about?

3. In what ways can the present world-condition of constant change be utilized in the field of education?

- (a) Should the curriculum be revised, enlarged or altered?

- (b) Can means be found to encourage greater productive effort on the part of the faculty during this period of smaller classes?

- (c) Should the College adopt some of the methods of such training schools as that at Plattsburg and insist on better physical condition on the part of the student, greater punctuality, elimination of cutting, machinery for speeding up, and inculcating that sense of responsibility which is lacking now or not present in sufficient measure?

- (d) Can the athletic system be revised on saner lines in such ways and with such sense that the reforms will be more than temporary?

4. Is any necessary portion of the student's education omitted from the combined activities of the various departments?

5. Is it advisable to attempt to devise ways and means to inculcate a love of reading among the students?

6. Do the members of the faculty look upon college problems from the college standpoint or the department standpoint? To what is this due? Should it be changed and if so, how?"

## OFFICERS RECENTLY ELECTED

Amherst, R. G. Gettell, Secretary.

California, M. W. Haskell, Chairman.

Dartmouth, C. R. Lingley, Secretary.

Mount Holyoke, Ellen D. Ellis, Chairman, Gertrude Cushing, Secretary.

Vassar, Marian P. Whitney, Chairman, Lucy E. Textor, Secretary.